AVON SOUTH SALVAGE TIMBER SALE

June 16, 2008 Land Board

LOCATION OF SALE:

- Anaconda Unit (SWLO) Approximately 10 air miles northeast of Deer Lodge, Montana
- Powell County Section 16, T9N-R8W
- 100% Common School

SALE VOLUME & ESTIMATED VALUE:

- The estimated sale volume is 4,209 tons (605 MBF) with an estimated minimum bid value of \$73,910.00 or \$17.56/ton.
- In addition to the estimated stumpage value, a fee of \$3.27/ton for Forest Improvement will be charged for all merchantable sawlog timber harvested.
- 6.96 tons/MBF is the conversion factor.

SALE & HARVEST TREATMENTS:

- The sale consists of one harvest unit that totals 86 acres.
- Harvesting would focus on salvaging recently killed lodgepole pine by Mountain Pine Beetle. Harvest treatments are designed to restore the ponderosa pine component and improve the health of the residual Douglas-fir stands.
- This sale contains no old growth.

HARVEST SYSTEMS:

100% Tractor

ROAD CONSTRUCTION:

Access to the Timber Sale is entirely through private easements which consists
of approximately 7 miles of existing road and 0.25 miles of new road
construction. In addition, approximately 0.65 miles of new road would be built
across State land to provide access into the harvest unit.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:

 Scoping letters were mailed to adjacent landowners and interested parties in October, 2007. Comments were received from MT DFWP on December 21, 2007.

PUBLIC COMMENTS, ISSUES AND MITIGATIONS:

- Water Resources No water resources are present within the proposed harvest area.
- **Soils** The sale has been designed to match the appropriate harvest and yarding systems to slopes and seasonal ground conditions thereby reducing the risk of soil erosion and compaction.
- Elk and Moose Winter Range The sale would reduce snow intercept cover on approximately 86 acres of elk and moose winter range. To partially address this

issue, forest cover would be retained on the steeper slopes and ridgeline. In addition, there is intercept cover within this State parcel that will be retained outside the harvest unit.

The Director recommends the Land Board direct the Department to sell the Avon South Salvage Timber Sale project.





